

SERVICE DATE – MARCH 30, 2026

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DECISION

Docket No. FD 36909

TRANSLOADX RAILROAD COMPANY, INC.—
ACQUISITION AND OPERATION EXEMPTION—
CSX TRANSPORTATION, INC.

Decided: March 30, 2026

TransloadX Railroad Company, Inc. (TransloadX-RR), a noncarrier, has filed a verified notice of exemption under 49 CFR 1150.31 to lease and operate two lines of railroad from CSX Transportation, Inc. (CSXT), totaling approximately 37.1 miles (the Lines). The Lines consist of (1) approximately 18.3 miles of CSXT's Augusta Branch, which extends from Waterville, Me. (MP WVT 0.7), to Augusta, Me. (MP WVT 19.0) in Kennebec County, Me., and (2) approximately 18.8 miles of CSXT's Bucksport Branch, which extends from Bangor, Me. (MP WVB 0.2), to Bucksport, Me. (MP WVB 19.0), in Penobscot and Hancock Counties, Me.

On March 27, 2026, Chalmers Hardenbergh filed a Combined Petition to Stay and Petition to Revoke the Notice of Exemption. Hardenbergh argues that the transaction “raises serious public interest and fitness concerns.” (Pet. 2.) Hardenbergh asserts that the principals of TransloadX-RR “have been found by a Massachusetts Superior Court to have engaged in unfair and inequitable conduct and to have intentionally violated a court order.” (*Id.*) He asks the Board to (1) stay the effectiveness of the verified notice of exemption, and (2) revoke the exemption as “inconsistent with the public interest and with the national rail transportation policy set forth in 49 U.S.C. § 10101.”¹ (*Id.* at 5-7.)

On March 30, 2026, counsel for TransloadX-RR filed a letter with the Board asking the Board to either remove Hardenbergh's filing or reclassify it as a comment. TransloadX-RR argues, among other things, that Hardenbergh is not representing anyone with “a cognizable interest in this proceeding.” (Letter 1.) The letter contends that the personal opinions expressed by Hardenbergh “have no relation to the proposed transaction in this docket” and mischaracterize the facts. (*Id.*) The letter also indicates that if the Board does not remove the petition, TransloadX-RR will submit a response to the combined petition.

Under 49 C.F.R. § 1115.5, any response by TransloadX-RR to the petition for stay is limited to 10 pages, 49 C.F.R. § 1115.5(c), and will be due April 1, 2026 (five days after the

¹ Because the exemption is not yet effective, Hardenbergh's request is more appropriately characterized as a request to reject the verified notice.

petition to stay was filed), 49 U.S.C. § 1115.5(a). TransloadX-RR may reply to the merits of the petition to revoke the exemption by April 16, 2026. See 49 C.F.R. § 1104.13(a).

It is ordered:

1. TransloadX-RR may file a reply, not to exceed 10 pages, in response to the petition to stay by April 1, 2026.
2. TransloadX-RR may file a reply in response to the petition to revoke by April 16, 2026.
3. This decision is effective on its date of service.

By the Board, Scott M. Zimmerman, Acting Chief Counsel, Office of Chief Counsel.